

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 were previously pending in the application. Claims 17 and 21-23 are canceled and claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 18, 24-26, 30, 32, 34 are amended herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 1-16, 18-20, and 24-35 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

In paragraph 3, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 8, 9, and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Heller. In paragraph 4, the Examiner objected to claims 3-7, 10-14, and 18-35 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that the claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. For the following reasons, the Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are allowable.

Claim 1 is amended to include the recitations of claim 21 (now canceled) and is now equivalent to claim 21 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner indicated that claim 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, amended claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 8 is amended to include the recitations of claim 22 (now canceled) and is now equivalent to claim 22 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner indicated that claim 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, amended claim 8 is allowable.

Claim 15 is amended to include the recitations of claims 17 and 23 (now canceled) and is now equivalent to claim 23 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner indicated that claim 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, amended claim 15 is allowable.

Claims 3, 10, 18, and 24-26 are rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner indicated that claims 3, 10, 18, and 24-26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, amended claims 3, 10, 18, and 24-26 are allowable.

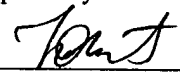
Claim 30 depends from claim 1 and is amended to delete the recitations already present in amended claim 1. Claim 32 depends from claim 8 and is amended to delete the recitations already present in amended claim 8. Claim 34 depends from claim 15 and is amended to delete the recitations already present in amended claim 15.

Since claims 2, 4-7, 9, 11-14, 16, 19-20, and 27-35 depend variously from allowable claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 18, and 24-26, it is submitted that those claims are also allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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